

The Rev. J. C. Ryle, a well known minister of the Church of England, has been writing a series of letters to the *Record*, on Church Reform. His description of the state of affairs in the Establishment is not very encouraging, if we may judge by the following extract:—"Like some fossilised country squire who lives twenty miles from a railway and never visits London, the poor dear old Church of England must still travel in the old family coach, shoot with the old flint-locked single-barrel gun, and wear the old jack-boots and long pigtail. And all this time Dissent is netting and bagging the Church's children by scores, and laughing in her sleeve at the old gentleman's folly." In his last he proposes, among other sweeping changes, the revival of the offices of sub-deacon and evangelist, and insists that no appointment should ever be made to a living, without consulting the wishes of the people! He expects that these suggestions will be met by a host of objections; but he advises objectors to look at the Irish Church, and be wise in time.

## Correspondence.

### A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

DEAR BROTHER,—In your last issue you make me to say in my letter anent "Waterloo," "These facts becoming known to the present pastor, and he, finding a number of persons favorably disposed towards us, *organized them into a Congregational Church.*" The words thus scored I never could have written, because the event has not yet occurred, though some day we hope it will, and that before long. But more on this anon.

In the meantime, I remain Dear Brother,

Yours truly,

GRANBY, January 10, 1870.

JAMES HOWELL.

## News of the Churches.

**Northern Congregational Church, Toronto.**—A meeting of remarkable interest has taken place during the past month in this Church, and the result deserves to be chronicled for the encouragement of others in like circumstances.

The church property, including the land and school buildings, cost, it seems, over \$10,000, and the calculations of the promoters of the cause proved, as is often the case, somewhat astray as to the amount. It therefore happened that, beyond a sum of £800 raised by mortgages, a floating debt of \$1,800 had to be incurred before the building was completely finished and furnished. At the recurrence of the second annual festival, the Trustees determined to make an effort to reduce this amount, and concluded at first that they might possibly pay off \$800 out of the \$1,800. After talking over their project of doing this, their faith and expectation were higher, and after pledging one another to an earnest effort, they concluded to aim at the whole amount. It should be stated that no public appeal had been made before, and they felt it would not be in vain for them to rely on the liberality and good will of their friends, especially of sister churches. Rev. Mr. Punshon was